

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.
If they truly want
to demonstrate
journalist integrity
and fairness then
they will also air
the film "Going
Upriver - the Long
War of John Kerry"
and allow a free and
open discussion
after both films are
shown. Sinclair's
owners have donated
large amounts of
money to the Bush
campaign and this
smacks of abuse of
their role as media
owners and their
responsibility to
use the public
airwaves as a pulpit
for their own
agenda. To call the
anti-Kerry film a
documentary and not
a piece of political
propaganda is
dishonest,
manipulative and in
violation of serving
the public fairly on
this issue.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. But when
large companies
control the
airwaves, we get
more of what's good
for the bottom line
and less of what we
need for our
democracy. Instead
of something
produced at "News
Central" far away,
it's more important
that we see real
people from our own
communities and more

substantive news
about issues that
matter.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.